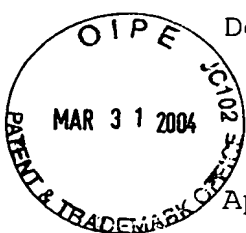


RCE 13677 #



Docket No. 163-380

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
PATENT OPERATION

Applicants:

**Carlo Cattaneo**

Serial Number: **10/079,121**

Filing Date: **February, 19 2002**

)  
) Examiner: Ruth C. Rodriguez

)  
) Art Unit: 3677

Title: **CONNECTION DEVICE FOR THE REALISATION OF A TUBULAR-FRAME STRUCTURE FOR SUPPORTING SURFACES**

New York, NY 10036  
March 29, 2004

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendments  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

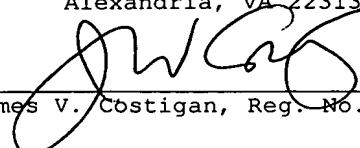
**RECEIVED**  
**APR 05 2004**  
**GROUP 3600**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This Amendment is being filed prior to examination and also in response to the Office Action that was mailed July 10, 2003. Kindly amend the above identified application as follows:

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on March 29, 2004 in an envelope addressed to:

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James V. Costigan, Reg. No. 25,669